



82917KNM  
Customer No. 01333

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Tiecheng A. Qiao, et al

RANDOM ARRAY OF MICRO-  
SPHERES FOR THE ANALYSIS OF  
NUCLEIC ACIDS

RCE of Serial No. 10/036,828

Filed 21 December 2001

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

Sir:

Group Art Unit: 1634

Examiner: Betty J. Forman

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being  
faxed today to the Commissioner For Patents, P.O.  
Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

*Carol A. Kukurudza*  
Carol A. Kukurudza

*April 1, 2004*  
Date

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Before consideration of the above-identified application, and in response to arguments set forth in the Final Office Action dated January 5, 2004, and the Advisory Action dated March 22, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as set forth below:

**Amendments to the Specification** being on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 8 of this paper.